

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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DRAFTED BY EUR/WE/KSMITH/GPFOURIER

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PM/SAS/SGEIS (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NATO CAPITALS IMMEDIATE

INFO SECDEF

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NILI, MASS, MPOL, PO, NATO

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE FORCE MODERNIZATION

REF: (A) USNATO 771, (B) BONN 2564, (C) USNATO 727,
(D) USNATO 310, (E) STATE 15874, (F) STATE 12319,
(G) 76 STATE 250832, (H) 76 STATE 297128

1. TO ENHANCE CONCRETE ALLIED SUPPORT FOR PORTUGUESE
FORCE MODERNIZATION, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT POSTS SHOULD
NOW ENCOURAGE HOST GOVERNMENTS TO COME FORWARD WITH CON-
CRETE OFFERS OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE. PORTUGUESE HAVE SUB-
MITTED FINAL ARMY AND AIR FORCE EQUIPMENT LISTS IN BRUSSELS
WHERE CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN AD HOC GROUP MEMBERS ARE NOW
UNDER WAY IN PREPARATION FOR FORMAL RECONVENING OF THE
GROUP. FRENCH HAVE ALSO BEEN GIVEN LIST ON INFORMAL BASIS.

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THE US AND FRG WILL BE INFORMING OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP
OF THEIR EXTENSIVE COMMITMENTS TO SUPPLY THE PORTUGUESE
BRIGADE WITH MILITARY EQUIPMENT DURING 1977.

2. ACTION REQUESTED (EXCEPT BONN, LISBON AND PARIS):
ADDRESSES ARE REQUESTED TO APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENTS AND
URGE THAT EACH BE PREPARED TO PRESENT CONCRETE OFFERS OF

MILITARY ASSISTANCE AT MEETING OF AD HOC GROUP NOW SCHEDULED FOR EARLY MARCH. YOU MAY DRAW ON FOLLOWING DURING

APPROACHES --

-- AS YOU KNOW, THE NATO AD HOC GROUP ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL AND TURKEY WILL BE MEETING IN EARLY MARCH TO DEFINE THE AREAS IN WHICH EACH ALLY CAN BEST CONTRIBUTE TO THE PORTUGUESE FORCE MODERNIZATION PLAN.

-- PORTUGAL HAS SUBMITTED TO THE ALLIES' REPRESENTATIVES IN BRUSSELS LISTS OF THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE EQUIPMENT WHICH WILL BE NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE MODERNIZATION PLAN.

-- WE HOPE EACH ALLY WILL CAREFULLY AND SYMPATHETICALLY EXAMINE ITS OWN CAPABILITY TO SUPPLY A PORTION OF THE NECESSARY MATERIEL AND BE PREPARED TO COMMIT ITSELF TO PROVIDING THE EQUIPMENT AT THE UPCOMING MEETING.

-- THE US AND THE FRG HAVE ALREADY SUPPLIED AND INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO SUPPLY EQUIPMENT LISTED PARA 3, REF. (F). THIS IS A BEGINNING, BUT IN NO WAY SHOULD IT BE REGARDED AS PRE-EMPTING ANY SPECIFIC AREAS OF MATERIEL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ANY ONE COUNTRY.

-- WE HOPE EACH ALLY WILL BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE AN APPROPRIATE PORTION OF THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT TO ENSURE THAT THE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM RETAINS THE CHARACTER OF AN ALL-NATO COMMON EFFORT.

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-- WE HOPE TO FOCUS ON THE PRIORITY REQUIREMENTS OF THE PORTUGUESE AIR TRANSPORTABLE BRIGADE AT THE UPCOMING AD HOC GROUP MEETING. CONSIDERATION OF ALLIED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PORTUGUESE NAVY WILL HAVE TO AWAIT GOP SUBMISSION OF NAVY NEEDS.

3. FOR PARIS: IN RESPONSE TO FRENCH (DEL PECH) STATEMENT IN DECEMBER THAT GOF HAD NOT SEEN LISTS, DOD SUPPLIED COPY OF ARMY AND AIR FORCE EQUIPMENT LISTS WHICH FRENCH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON FORWARDED TO THE MINISTERIAL DELEGATION FOR ARMAMENTS IN THE DEFENSE MINISTRY. IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE OTHER NATO COUNTRIES TO KNOW WHAT EQUIPMENT THE FRENCH MIGHT MAKE AVAILABLE, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE MEMBERS OF THE AD HOC GROUP ARE NOW MAKING CONCRETE PLEDGES OF SUPPORT. YOU MAY WANT TO DRAW ON TALKING POINTS IN REFTEL G (PARAS A-D) IN DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH.

4. FOR USNATO: DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES AND CONCURS IN

YOUR INITIATIVE TO UNDERTAKE PARALLEL APPROACHES TO ALLIED
PERMANENT MISSIONS AT BRUSSELS (REF A).

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 16-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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